

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1166
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
CHANGE IN ELIGIBILITY FOR HANDICAPPED
Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to make any change in the parameters for handicapped persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether separate assessment is proposed by the Government for persons who become handicapped due to some disease and those who are handicapped by birth;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of women out of the total number of handicapped persons in the country along with the number and percentage who got employment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) As per Section 2(i) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, disability means-(i) blindness; (ii) low vision; (iii) leprosy- cured; (iv) hearing impairment; (v) loco motor disability;(vi) mental retardation; (vii) mental illness. The Government has introduced The Rights of Persons with Disability Bill, 2014 in the Rajya Sabha on 7.02.2014 which recognizes 19 specified disabilities based on an evolving and dynamic concept.

(c) & (d) The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 mandates framing of guidelines by the Central Government for the purpose of assessing the extent of specified disability in a person.

(e) As per Census 2011, there are about 2.68 crore persons with disabilities, out of which there are about 1.18 crore women with disabilities. The data relating to percentage of employment among women with disabilities is not maintained in the Ministry.